

country free. Great soldiers come in mind: General Washington, George Patton, Audie Murphy, the less famous but not less important vet. John Joseph Kunkes, my grandfather, fought in Korea. He was missing from action from his platoon for one month. He was on his own staying alive on skills taught to him by the U.S. Army.

Thinking about my grandfather's adventures makes me remember every veteran has their tale to tell. It would be to our best interest to seek out his story and appreciate his commitments to his country and his branch of service.

To some, Veterans Day is a day off of school or work. But World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam fighters make me shiver. They fought in those wars and risked their lives that makes them so great.

On Veterans Day, remember and pray for courageous vets and honor them with the respect and dignity they deserve. To all past, present, and future veterans, remember we are all behind you.

#### VETERANS DAY

(By Julian Ollry, Nathan Hale Middle School)

Many brave men and women have given their lives in wartime for our country. One that was not so far in the past was the Vietnam War. The veterans of this war must be especially honored for their valor and loyalty at the most crucial time in American History.

This war was difficult for Americans because many of them disagreed with the war. In 1973, the United States government had agreed to stop fighting in Vietnam. When many soldiers returned from the hardships during the war, seeing friends or relatives die in battle, many Americans did not support them and many soldiers felt very unappreciated. Veterans are now beginning to be recognized by other foreign war heroes. Veterans gather at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC to place gifts and stand quiet vigil at the names of their friends and relatives who fell in the Vietnam War. Families have lost sons and/or daughters in wars. Their thoughts and many others are toward peace and the avoidance of future wars.

Today, let us give thanks to these Vietnam veterans and all the brave men and women who fought for America. These soldiers are our heroes. They gave their lives for us and for the cause of freedom. May each and everyone be honored for eternity.

#### WHAT VETERANS DAY MEANS TO ME

(By Amanda Lally, Grade 7, St. Jane de Chantal Elementary School)

Veterans Day is a very important holiday in our country. It honors all of those who are living and dead—who served with the US armed forces in times of war. We owe so much to those brave men and women who fought for our freedom and protected our country.

I am very proud to have family members who have served for our country. My great-grandfather fought in World War II. He was captured by the enemy and became a prisoner of war, but he survived and came home. My great-uncle fought in the Korean Conflict. They were both proud to serve our country.

Without all of these brave men and women, where would our country be? they put their life on the line for all of us. We should not only honor our veterans on this commemora-

tive day, but every day, because without our armed forces there would be no peace or freedom.

To all of the people who have served for our country, you make me feel proud to be an American.

#### WHAT VETERANS DAY MEANS TO ME

(By Jennifer Gename, Grade 8, St. Jane de Chantal Elementary School)

In my opinion, I think it is only fair to have a holiday commemorating the men who risked their lives to uphold the benefits and principles of our country. They worked hard to uphold our nation's belief in freedom, and they deserve to have a day of recognition.

Although Veterans Day is probably not one of the most publicly mentioned holidays, it has great meaning towards my family and me. My grandfather served in World War II, and thankfully survived unharmed. He, and all the other men, worked day and night in the midst of shootings, killings, and pain. They didn't know if they would ever get through a day, let alone survive until the end of the war. If this sort of endurance doesn't deserve a holiday, then I don't know what does. These men did so much for our country, so that everyone would be able to lead happy, safe lives.

So, to me, Veterans Day is a very important holiday, because it helps people realize what others went through to help the nation.

#### VETERANS DAY

(By William Matuszak, St. Rene Goupil Elementary School)

Veterans Day is a time to remember and honor men and women who have served in the Armed forces. This holiday is celebrated on November, 11.

Veterans Day is important to me for many reasons. Both my grandfathers have served in a war. One served in World War II and the other in the Korean Conflict. It is not only important to me, but to everyone, because many families have served in armies and have fought for their countries in war. Veterans Day can also show people between countries, because war is over and we can celebrate that also.

Veterans Day is a very important day to all. Men and women from all over the world have fought for their countries in many different ways, and we honor them on this very special day. We celebrate their accomplishments and sacrifices. Veterans Day is a great way to honor all who have died and all who are still living that have served their nation in the military. Let us keep all of the men and women who are presently serving in our military that God will keep them out of harm's way.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all of these fine authors the best of luck in their future studies.

#### COLLEGE STUDENT CREDIT CARD PROTECTION ACT

##### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, JOHN DUNCAN of Tennessee and I introduced H.R. 3142, the College Student Credit Card Protection Act. Madison Avenue and the credit card companies have convinced our col-

lege students that getting a credit card is necessary for a fun college experience. But upon graduation, many of these young people find themselves buried in debt. Just recently, the House recognized the need to educate young people on this issue by passing a bill to encourage high schools to teach financial literacy, including credit education. College by college, state by state, this issue is being recognized as a serious problem that needs to be addressed.

A recent report found that one-fifth of the Nation's college students are carrying credit debts of more than \$10,000. Seventy percent of undergraduates at 4-year colleges possess at least one credit card. One 19-year-old sophomore student in the Rochester, NY area who had no income recently attempted to declare bankruptcy; he had accumulated a stack of credit cards and owed the credit card companies \$23,000! In Knoxville, TN, one college student ran up \$30,000 in credit card debt in just 2 years. Students are snowballing into debt through the extension of unaffordable credit lines, peer pressure to spend, and financial naivete. Low minimum monthly payments and routine credit limits hikes add to the seductiveness of plastic.

Even though many students with credit cards have no income to pay the bills, credit card companies are aggressively marketing their cards to college students. Credit card companies set up tables during orientation week and outside college lunchrooms, advertising free gifts such as t-shirts and mugs, to sign up as many students as possible. Most of the time, all that is required is a student identification card. For many students, they experience problems when they cannot afford to make payments on their credit cards, which ruins their credit ratings before they have even entered the workforce. While many college students are adults, responsible for the debt they charge, the credit card industry's policy of extending high lines of credit to unemployed or underemployed students needs to be examined.

This bipartisan legislation would compel credit card companies to determine before approving a card whether any prospective customer who is a traditionally aged full-time student, can afford to pay off the balance. This bill would limit credit lines to 20 percent of a student's annual income without a cosigner. Students could also receive a starter credit card with a lower credit limit, allowing increases over time if prompt payments have been made. Another provision would eliminate the fine print in credit card agreements and solicitations, where fees and penalties are hidden. This print would have to be enlarged. Finally, parents would have to agree in writing to increases in the credit limit of cards which they have cosigned.

##### HONORING GORDON WOOD

##### HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a great deal of Texas pride to recognize

an outstanding individual, Gordon Wood of Brownwood, Texas.

In today's edition of the Dallas Morning News, the newspaper named Coach Wood, the "Coach of the Century" as part of its 100 Years of Texas High School Football series. I can think of no one more deserving. Coach Wood not only led and inspired many young people during his career but also brought great achievements to several Texas communities.

"Coach" was an important figure during the formative years of my life, and he has remained so. Early in his career, he coached in my hometown of Stamford. He led our team to two State championships, and I am proud to have been part of his early success. He went on to lead the Brownwood Lions to seven State championships and won a total of 405 games in his 43-year career.

Coach Wood is a legend in Texas not only for his coaching but for the way he has led his life. To me, that puts him in the Ranks of Tom Landry, Bear Bryant and Joe Paterno.

I wish to include in the RECORD a copy of the article that ran this morning in the Dallas Morning News.

This honor is a great tribute to Coach Wood and his wife, Katharine, and I know there are many folks who join me in sending them congratulations and best wishes.

[From the Dallas Morning News, Nov. 17, 1999]

ALWAYS IN THE GAME—FOOTBALL, GORDON WOOD STYLE, STILL ABSORBS COACH OF CENTURY

(Kevin Sherrington)

BROWNWOOD, TEXAS.—Gordon Wood wears hearing aids in both ears. He had a triple bypass in 1990, and five years ago a stroke punched a few holes in his memory. He's working on his third artificial hip. He's diabetic. A faint white web of scars runs wild over his mottled face, the vestiges of 13 skin tumors.

This is what can happen to you if you live 85 years.

He can't play golf because of the bad left hip. He won't play checkers anymore because that's what he was doing when the world started spinning, and he walked into a restroom and couldn't find his way out. A stroke, the doctors told him. A woman came to get him in the restroom and asked him to step back with his right foot. He tried to comply but stepped forward instead, right into the toilet.

Checkers was fun, and he was good at it, but it's not worth it if it reminds him of that. So now the only hobby he has left is football.

This is what can happen to you if you coach 43 years.

Or maybe this is what happens if you're Gordon Wood, the greatest coach in the history of Texas high school football.

A Dallas Morning News panel of college coaches and sports writers chose Wood over a group that included Waco's Paul Tyson, who won four state championships in the 1920s, and Abilene's Chuck Moser, who won 49 consecutive games. Joe Golding got some consideration at Wichita Falls, as did Amarillo's Blair Cherry.

Wood wasn't a hard choice, though. He won nine state championships, two at Stamford and seven at Brownwood, which in the 40 years before he arrived had won only a single district title.

He won 405 games overall, which was more than anyone else in the nation when he retired in 1985 at 71.

But, if you're looking for numbers to define Wood's greatness, you must know that he is the only coach to win 100 games in three different decades, and the only coach who won state titles in three decades, as well.

Those numbers indicate that he never lost his enthusiasm for the game, never thought he knew so much that he couldn't learn more, never won so much that he got enough of it.

Not when he retired 14 years ago.

Not even now.

The numbers say a lot about Gordon Wood. But, if you really want to know why he was so great, you only have to go to a game with him.

He is better-looking in person than in photographs. Pictures can't capture his vitality or regal posture, his warmth, his habit of extending both hands to someone in greeting, or his habit of holding on to the hand of a young person while he's talking to him. In most pictures, he looks almost sad, or, at best, blank. They couldn't be less telling. Pictures can't show the balletic movement of a curious, inquisitive mind.

He is sitting in the press box of the stadium named after him, talking about his offense between bites of a ham sandwich.

Did you always run the Wing-T?

"I have since the war," Wood says.

He means World War II. He put in the offense at the counsel of Clyde "Bulldog" Turner, once called the toughest football player ever. But it was Turner's old college coach, Warren Woodson, who invented the offense, the same one he used at Hardin-Simmons and New Mexico State and Arizona, and in the process was the only coach ever to produce the nation's top rusher four years in a row.

"Warren Woodson was one of the greatest offensive coaches that ever was," Wood says. "Cocky little devil, too. He watched us one time and came up to me afterward and said, 'Coach, don't tell anybody you run our offense. You did such a lousy job.'"

"Yeah, he was the best offensive coach I ever saw."

He takes a bit out of his sandwich.

"Sorriest defensive coach, too."

Warren Woodson is dead. So is Bulldog Turner. They are great names lost to a younger generation that wouldn't know a Wing-T offense from a wingtip shoe. Wood knew Turner and Woodson, and he knows Darrell Royal, who calls Wood "one of the all-time great football coaches, regardless of the level." He is a friend of Bum Phillips, who calls Wood the best coach he knows. Bear Bryant told Wood's son, Jim, that, had he stayed at Texas A&M, "I would have given your dad a heck of a run for the best coach in Texas."

Wood knows Bill Parcells. Maybe you remember the story that came out a couple of years ago, when Parcells took over as coach of the New York Jets after going to Super Bowls with two different organizations. Parcells told reporters about the time he coached linebackers for Texas Tech in the 1970s. They had 20 spring practices, and at more than a dozen, he saw the same leathery old man in a maroon cap with a "B" on it. Parcells introduced himself and asked the old man where he was from.

"A little town down the road here," the man said.

"Outside Lubbock?" Parcells asked.

"No, a little further."

"How far is it?"

"Well, it's 2½ hours one way."

Wood drove five hours a day to watch Tech's linebackers. He drove every day for two weeks to learn something from a coach half his age. Parcells said Wood had as much influence on him as Halas, Lombardi, Noll or Landry, and he thinks about him every summer when training camp starts, thinks about the old man with more than 300 wins "driving five hours a day to find out something."

Wood has gone farther than that. Every year, for 43 years, he has traveled around the country to the American Football Coaches Association meeting. He has lectured at coaching clinics in 18 states, most of them more than once. He spoke in Tennessee last summer.

He went to Canada three times, in the summers of 1967, '70 and '71. He was guest coach for the CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers, coached by a man named Jim Spavitol, who played at Oklahoma State and first met Wood in the Navy.

After one of his summer trips north, Katharine, his wife of 56 years, asked him what it was like working with professional players.

"They're just overgrown boys," he said.

He only had a few players who went on to play professional football. The best probably was Lawrence Elkins, the Baylor receiver, his career ruined by injuries in the NFL. The best set was the three Southall brothers—Si, Terry and Shae—all quarterbacks, the sons of his long-time assistant, Morris Southall.

Southall helped run the offense. In the Wing-T, the Lions flipped the offensive line to double their number of plays and simplify blocking assignments. Wood told Royal about it in 1960, when Royal invited him on a trip to New York. Royal used the flip-flop in 1963, when he won his first national championship.

"We ran more formations than most teams run plays," Wood says. "We'd run 36, 39, 42 plays a week in practice, and the second team got just as many reps as the first team."

And, always, the rules were the same.

"Kid makes a mistake in practice," Wood says, "we run it over again."

Wood hates mistakes. He made a point in his career of making players believe in themselves. He won a state championship his first season at Brownwood, in 1960. He says that, if you severely criticize a player at practice, you have to make sure you do something to build him up again.

But it is his obsessive perfectionism that drives him. He watches anxiously from a press box cubicle as the Lions play host to Joshua, a heavy underdog. He talks until a play starts and then stops talking until it's over. If the play is a success for Brownwood, he might say nothing, most likely picking up his speech where he left off. If the play favors Joshua, it might give him fits.

Like, say, a 10-yard burst on a trap play by Joshua.

"You go back to our state championship teams," he says, irritated, "and see how many zeroes it has there for what the other teams scored."

He is up from his press box seat, talking to someone about how in the world Joshua can be moving the ball at all when he suddenly realizes that the Joshua band is playing.

"Did they score?" he asks, incredulous.

Forty-one-yard field goal, someone says. Makes it 21-3, Brownwood.

"Gaw-dang," Wood says.

He settles down and goes back to talking about offense. He got plays everywhere. He'd see something in a college game on Saturday

afternoon and put it in the game plan Sunday night.

He has spoken at so many clinics that most of what he says seems as if he were reading it off the walls of a locker room.

On a coach who wouldn't leave his team for a week: "If you can't leave for four days, you've got a poor group of assistant coaches. And if you leave for four days, the kids will listen to you more when you come back."

On the variety of offenses available: "It doesn't make a dang what you line up in; it's what you do after you get there."

On his coaching philosophy: "It's not the big things that beat you; it's a million little things."

The little things might surprise you. He watched a coach in practice one day and noticed that, on every offensive play, he put the ball down on a yard line. Wood couldn't believe it. How often does that happen in a game? Move the ball around, he told them. Make the players look to see where the ball is, and maybe they won't draw foolish penalties for lining up offsidies.

His assistants knew what he wanted. Southall, the only assistant over elected president of the Texas High School Coaches Association, worked for him 31 of his last 38 years in coaching.

Southall left him only a couple of times, once to be head coach at Winters after Wood left from Stamford, where he won state championships in 1955 and '56.

"If I'd had him at Stamford . . ." Wood says of Southall and stops in mid-sentence when a ball bounces off a Brownwood receiver and into the hands of a Joshua defensive back.

"That's two balls they've dropped," he says.

He shakes his head.

"If I'd had him at Stamford," he says again, "I'd have won three state championships there. No doubt. He was the best quarterback coach in the state."

He thinks about the interception again and winces.

"That kills me when they do things like that," he says.

He sees mistakes everywhere. He watches the Cowboys every Sunday. He is a friend and "great fan" of Tom Landry, a reluctant admirer of the impersonal Jimmy Johnson and a defender of Barry Switzer.

But he is amazed at what happens on a professional football field. He cites a play in a recent game where Emmitt Smith fumbled on a pitch.

"You know why they fumbled and lost it?" he asks. "Damn poor coaching, that's what."

He says he thought about writing Cowboys coach Chan Gailey and telling him so. Wood is big on writing letters. They appear occasionally in The News and the Abilene Reporter-News, mostly defending teachers of U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm, a former all-state end for Wood at Stamford. Sometimes he just writes to correct mistakes of any nature.

He'd write Gailey, he says, but he's not sure it would do any good. He pulls out a sheet of paper and diagrams his trademark play, the power pitch. Any team that wanted to beat his, he says, first had to stop the power pitch. They'd run it 20 times a game and never fumble.

Here's why the Cowboys fumble, he says, whether it's Tony Dorsett or Emmitt Smith: Coaches teach the running back to run at an angle toward the line of scrimmage before taking the pitch. Wood says they should have backs run parallel with the line, which would better allow them to catch the pitch,

then square their shoulders before they hit the hole.

But wouldn't the Cowboys argue that a back gets to the hole faster if he runs at an angle?

"Might be quicker to the hole," Wood says tersely, his eyes returning to the field, "but you aren't gonna get to the hole with the ball."

He stares straight ahead.

"Just a fundamental mistake," he mutters. "S'all there is to it."

Asked his favorite college coaches, he immediately cites Texas Tech's Spike Dykes and Texas' Mack Brown. He is intrigued by Oklahoma's comeback under Bob Stoops, he's impressed by Kansas State Bill Snyder, and he's a great friend of Florida State's Bobby Bowden.

In his 1992 book, "Gordon Wood's Game Plan to Winning Football", he lists 36 coaches who have contributed to his beliefs, ranging from former assistants to Bo Schembechler, W.T. Staple, Gene Stallings and a high school coach from Ohio named Bron Bacevich.

Wood's education in football seems funny, considering how he started. His father was a farmer outside Abilene who didn't believe a man needed much in the way of schooling.

"If you get to third grade and can read and write," A.V. Wood told his eight children, "you're wasting your time going to college. You'll just be a teacher or preacher, and you'll starve."

Gordon Wood was the only one of A.V.'s four sons to earn a high school diploma. He went on to Hardin-Simmons and never starved. But he didn't get rich, either. The most he ever made coaching and teaching, he says, was \$42,000. He had an offer in the '50s to be an assistant coach at Texas Tech, but he didn't like the travel required in recruiting.

He and Katharine, who reared a son and daughter, live in a little three-bedroom house just two blocks from the high school, the same place they've lived since the early '60s, two doors down from Southhall. The day that Wood retired, he fulfilled a promise to himself when he bought a luxury car and the best golf cart he could find.

He drove the car into the garage, and Katharine told him it was nice. She also told him she'd never ride in it.

"There are too many hungry people in this town," she told her husband.

So he took the car back. He listens to Katharine, as long as she's not trying to send in a couple of new plays. He says he probably would have coached one more year, but she insisted that he retire, and he reluctantly agreed.

"It was time for me to quit," he says.

He sounds sincere. But he still has a radio program on Thursday evenings to talk about high school football, still has coffee with friends to talk about it. He watches it on television, reads about it in newspapers, visits coaches and players.

And, nearly every week, he goes to a game. "I enjoy watching," he says. "I really do."

Most of the time, anyway. With five minutes left in the Joshua game, he gets up to leave the press box and beat the rush. Brownwood is up, 35-6, and sitting on Joshua's goal line.

At one of the exits, he says to hold up a second. "Let's see if they score," he says.

As if on cue, a Brownwood player is flagged for illegal motion.

"Aw, crap," Wood says, and turns for the parking lot.

Mistakes kill him, and always did. "I'd die if we had two or three penalties a game," he says.

Mistakes kill him, but he says he didn't make one by staying at Brownwood all those years. Katharine had put it in perspective earlier. "You take Tom Landry and Spike Dykes and Grant Teaff and Hayden Fry," she said. "They're all great coaches, but they were all just kids who played high school football in Texas."

And Gordon Wood was a Texas high school football coach, the best ever, his peers say.

Even an old perfectionist couldn't beat that.

"I wouldn't change anything," he says softly, sitting in his driveway in his sensible sedan. "No."

#### HONORING RONALD R. ROGERS AS HE IS INSTALLED AS GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS IN OHIO

#### HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ronald R. Rogers, a constituent, who recently became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for 1999-2000.

Mr. Rogers has an extensive Masonic record. He began his Masonic career as Master Councilor of Ivanhoe Chapter of the Order of DeMolay. He received his Chavalier Degree in 1952 and was awarded the Active Legion of Honor in 1976. He became a Master Mason in Norwood Lodge No. 576 in 1972. Before becoming Grand Master, Mr. Rogers was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1996, Senior Grand Warden in 1997, and Deputy Grand Master in 1998.

A Cincinnati native, Mr. Rogers is a graduate of Norwood High School and received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati. He worked for Clayton L. Scroggins, a management consulting firm in Cincinnati, for 35 years. Mr. Rogers is the proud father of a daughter, Robin, and the proud grandfather of a granddaughter, Leslie.

Active in his community, Mr. Rogers is a member of the Forest Chapel United Methodist Church. He has served Forest Chapel as Chairman of Finance, Chairman of Music and a member of the Administrative Board. He sang in the Forest Chapel Chancel Choir and also served as its president. Mr. Rogers is a past Area Financial Officer of United Way and past President of the Forest Park Band Boosters.

We congratulate Ronald Rogers on his position as Grand Master, and wish him every success during his tenure.

#### COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE COMPETITION AND PRIVATIZATION ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

#### HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3261. I am pleased that today we will